

A LOUGE of Emergency of St. John, No. 618, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, this evening, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely.

We note that the medical practitioners in Manila who rendered such good services during the cholera epidemic in the Philippines are to receive substantial pecuniary recompense from the Government in recognition of their efforts at that trying period.

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O. S.-N. Co's steamer *Tehran*, Captain R. G. Murray, with the English mail of July 27th, arrived in harbour this afternoon. We take the subjoined items from the *London and China Express*—

An international match at lawn tennis has been played on the Wimbledon Ground, and was won by the Messrs. Renshaw, the British champions, against the Messrs. Clark, representing America.

Advices from Tamalapa to the 13th inst. state that from the 26th ult. to the 5th inst. the Hovas made repeated attacks on the French force, which were, however, repulsed. Mr. Pakenham, the British Consul, was buried on the 22nd ult. The archives of the Consulate had previously been sent on board the *Dryad*.

A telegram from Malta, July 26, states that the Italian barque *Achille* from Buenos Ayres for Antwerp, and the steamer *Glenogle*, from London for China, were in collision at 11 P.M. July 17, near Sovereign Shoal Light vessel, when the former vessel sank, three of the crew being lost; the latter put in to Malta, and landed the remainder of the crew.

The Messageries Maritimes de France notify that in consequence of the regulations now in force the company are obliged to deviate somewhat from their ordinary routes, one of which is that the company have decided that their home-ward steamer from Australia and China will cease to communicate with Port Said until further notice.

After considerable labour the fore part of H.M.S. *Lively*, which was sold last week, has been successfully floated by means of large cranes, and towed into Stornoway harbour. The length of the forepart is about seventy feet, and had broken up. There is a large quantity of copper about her and general stores. The afterpart is still on the rock in deep water.

It is a pity that the *Ting-Yun*, the new Chinese ironclad, was not finished in time to receive a few words from Lieut. the Hon. Henry Moore in his paper on the Naval Strength of China. She has acquitted herself in a wonderful manner with a European crew, from all accounts, but what she may do when handed to a Chinese crew will probably be interesting to watch.

The *Comus*, 14, steel and iron corvette, cased with wood, 2,380 tons, 2,450 horse power, Captain James W. East, has received orders to return from the Pacific station to Sheerness (where she was commissioned on Oct. 23, 1879), to be paid out of commission, upon the arrival at Valparaiso, of the *Satellite*, Captain C. B. Theobald, which left Sheerness in May last.

The keel of a new unarmoured composite sloop, to be named the *Pyralis*, has been laid down at Sheerness. The vessel will be constructed upon the same lines as the steel corvette *Comus*, and will carry 12 powerful breech-loading guns. Her principal dimensions are as follows:—Length between perpendiculars, 200ft.; breadth, 37ft.; displacement in tons, 1,450. She will be fitted with engines of 950-horse power, and is estimated to cost £70,000.

Colonel Bannerman, Commandant 4th Rifles, has been granted the good-service pension. He served in the China war of 1860, and was in command of the 4th Rifles at the battle of Peking, and at the capture of the Taku Forts, accompanied the advance of the army on Tientsin and Peking, including the battles of Chang-kia-wan, Tungchow, and occupation of Peking (medal and two clasps).

The following appointments in H.M. China Consular Service, dated July 11th, are published in the *Gazette* of the 20th inst.:—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Byron Brennan, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Wu-hu, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Chfoo; Benjamin Charles George Scott, Esq., now Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Shanghai, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Wuhu; Herbert Allen Giles, Esq., now Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Peking, to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Shanghai; and Pelham Laird Warren, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Peking Island.

The *Kwang Lee*, a screw steamer of about 2,400 tons, built by Mr. W. B. Thompson, Whitehead, Glasgow, to the order of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, was launched on the 11th inst. She measures 280 feet by 39 feet 6 inches by 25 feet, and is being supplied by the builder at his Dundee works with engines of 250-horse-power nominal, the cylinders being of 50 inches diameter and 72 inches respectively, with a stroke of 48 inches. Accommodation will be provided for about thirty-six first-class passengers, and the whole of the 'tween decks will be fitted up for second-class passengers, the vessel having special arrangements for the China coasting and river trade.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by correspondents in this column.)

CORRUPT OFFICIALDOM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." SIR,—Your two contemporaries, the *China Mail* and *Daily Press*, are quick to seize every pretext for criticising the American Civil Service, drawing invidious comparisons with the English, but strangely enough I have seen no allusion in their columns to the frauds and corruption which notoriously exist among officials in this colony, and which you are now engaged in exposing. Do those who control these two newspapers belong to that class described in the Scriptures—"Who seeing—see not, and hearing—hear not" what everyone else in the colony sees and hears? When an American is found guilty of official corruption he is not simply told as a certain Hongkong official recently was "that he must not do so any more"; but the delinquent is kicked out of office, and the newspapers publish his infamy to the world. I hope you will continue the war on corruption. "Be just and fear not."

Can you tell me whether or not the Government here has taken any steps towards investigating the practices you recently exposed at the Harbour Master's office?

Yours truly,

Hongkong, 29th August, 1883.

[If the last paragraph of our correspondent's communication refers to the old established practice at this Harbour Office of charging a fee of one dollar per man for all sailors shipped at the Foreign Consulates in the colony, he will find some information on the subject in our leading article. We have no intention of abandoning the crusade against the many disgraceful forms of official corruption which we know exist, and shall be glad to receive the assistance of the public in carrying out our mission to a successful issue.—Editor, *Hongkong Telegraph*.]

WITH THE BRITISH FLEET IN THE NORTH.

We are indebted for the following interesting items relating to the movements of the British Squadron under the command of Admiral Willes, in the north, to the courtesy of a naval correspondent:—

After a pleasant stay at Nagasaki, the China Cruising Squadron left that beautiful harbour on the morning of the 10th August, two of the ships—the *Cleopatra* and *Daring*—having sailed early on the previous day, their rendezvous being Tusima, a Japanese island some 100 miles distant from Nagasaki. The *Vigilant*, having been left behind to bring on recovered officers and men expected from the naval sick quarters at Yokohama, left at daylight on the 13th and on the afternoon of the same day the vessels of the Squadron were sighted under sail making the best of their way to Choshu, one of the Corcan ports. The next morning the harbour of Choshu was enlivened by the presence of the British Squadron consisting of the *Audacious* (flagship), *Cleopatra*, *Circus*, *Sapphire*, *Daring*, *Pegasus*, *Albatross*, *Linnet* and *Vigilant*, which, anchored in two lines, made a very pretty and effective sight. The first of the ships to arrive off the port was the *Albatross*, followed some time afterwards by the *Pegasus*; the *Sapphire* being the first of the corvettes.

People interested in the future of Corea will be glad to hear that the site of the British Consulate has been purchased and marked out, and no doubt the Consulate will soon be erected. It will be situated on a small hill about midway between the Japanese and Corcan towns, and most probably will soon be surrounded by the Europeans who are going to settle here. A branch of the Corcan Customs under European supervision will shortly be established at Choshu. A European store has also just been opened, and as the climate is a very good one, there certainly appears every prospect of the country turning out another outlet for trade in years to come. The harbour of Choshu is a capital one and easy of access.

The sporting element of the Fleet have been indefatigable after game, but other day they got up a drive for hog deer the other day, owing to the thickness of the cover they had no luck. A few pheasants were shot and two or three hog deer seen, but they got away in the thick brushwood. On the 16th, the Squadron sailed for Port Lazaref, another of the Corcan ports, and the *Vigilant* returned to Nagasaki with mails. The despatch boat will probably rejoin the flagship about the 26th or 27th inst., at either Posette Bay or Wladivostok.

The *Faehund* is stationed in the Gulf of Pechili and the *Zephyr* has gone to Hakodate.

FOOCHOW.

News reaches us from up-country of a native, who was cutting grass, being bitten by a venomous snake, which not only caused his death, but also that of his son, who, it is said, by leaning over the body, to see whether life was extinct, inhaled his parent's breath. We live and learn, as we were certainly unaware that the breath of a person dying from blood-poisoning was contagious.

The reform brought about by our Commissioner of Customs in the method of informing the community of the amount of export of tea, and import of opium and treasure, will, we opine, be appreciated. The circular system was certainly anything but efficacious, and only involved the waste of time in signing batches of circulars, containing the names of steamers, despatched almost sufficiently long as to have reached their several destinations.

We learn that the recent numerous deaths occurring amongst the native of Qwan Tao and Sharp Peak, are assigned by the natives to quite different causes to that of an epidemic. It appears that a high official, who died at the former port, five mandarins proceeded from Foochow in one of their houseboats, to attend the funeral of the deceased. Shortly before reaching their destination, a squall suddenly capsized their vessel; the result being the drowning of its previous occupants. The supposition, or rather superstition, is that those who perished were justly punished for recent misdeeds, and that the plague, at the two ports, was a visitation on the inhabitants for allowing these mandarins to have remained in office.

We are informed that one of the public executioners in the city, who had held this sanguinary office for a period of sixty-two years, occasioned some offence, a few days ago, to the authorities, who sentenced him to death. The unfortunate man was not allowed the easy release from life by decapitation, but was subjected to the cruel death of having his body pierced with an iron rod, and died in the most excruciating agony. This reduces the number of executioners employed in the city to ten; each of whom are paid sums varying from two to three dollars per head, besides having a few perquisites.

The partiality that the Chinese have for pork renders them totally oblivious of the horrible disease styled trichinosis, to which consumers of this article of diet are especially liable during the summer season. This complaint, however, displays itself in a different form to that in which it visits Europeans, which is probably attributable to the begrimed state of their skin, the pores of which will not allow of free perspiration. On Friday last, two of these pachydermatous animals were slaughtered in Foochow, and a portion of the flesh partaken of by the family to whom they belonged. The only son was first attacked with symptoms of ague and then appeared to become imbecile. Both the parents, shortly afterwards, became speechless, and there is every probability of their remaining dumb, as, up to the present time, power of articulation has not returned.

We learn that last week two city youths conceived the idea of visiting Foochow, and decamped from their homes. Before they had quite completed their journey, they were met by a native, who offered them each a cake, which they gladly accepted. After eating the same they both became insensible, and in this condition were carried by their seducer to the river, and placed in a sampan and taken away. Strange to say that although there were several witnesses to the whole proceedings, there was not the slightest interference, and doubtless, if interrogated, the cowardly onlookers would make the usual reply "No blame my piggin." Although the walls of Foochow have been posted with bills, describing the juveniles, and offering rewards for their restoration, nothing has been heard of them up to the present, and we presume that they have been taken to a distance and sold.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The steamer *Glenogle* left Singapore for this port on the 26th inst., and is due here on the 1st proximo.

The steamer *Napier* left Sydney on the 16th inst., and is due here on or about the 10th proximo.

THE FOOCHOW TEA TRADE.

The following translation of a circular issued by the Chinese tea hong proprietors appears in a recent issue of the *Foochow Herald*:—

"It has been reported that the production of tea leaves in the Fuhkien Province has, during recent years, immensely increased, and that losses in the shipment of teas, by foreign merchants, have been sustained for several years; and that we, the merchants and the tea-men, have also for the like number of years experienced similar losses. In consequence of there not being a large consumption of teas in foreign countries, the accumulation of such article has become as a mountain, and resulted in the market of foreign countries daily going down, whereby foreign merchants are doubtful (about making purchases). Moreover, in successive years, the transportation of teas, from the Western and northern tea districts, of second and third crop, also the autumnal season teas, for sale in Foochow will keep increasing. (We) like a spring which cannot be exhausted, and if no measure is taken to decrease the quantity of such teas, we have no idea of what may be the extent of further losses to both Chinese and foreign merchants. As a proof of the latter being losers, one finds that such foreign merchants of Foochow have, every now and then, received telegrams advising the many losses upon the first crop teas bought in the course of the present year and shipped to foreign countries, no matter whether they shipped them by the first, second, or third vessels; whereby they have stopped buying for the present.

We are afraid that many tea-men are expecting a very large consumption (of teas) purchased to be made for the future, and will manage, by some means, to send large quantities of teas to Foochow, and thus make their losses still heavier, it is well-to-give a caution before hand. As we, the proprietors of the different tea hongs, cannot bear to sit quietly and see the many losses incurred by those interested, we have therefore assembled and consulted together, so that the important matter of the tea trade of this province may be well guarded. We have come to the conclusion that those tea hongs, which have applied on behalf of their constituents for transit passes, must have all such passes recalled, and return the same to the Foochow Lokin Office on the 10th day of the 8th Moon (10th September, 1883) when they are requested not to pay the lekin taxes on account of tea-men. It will also be necessary to cut short the quantity of teas which may be sent down from the country; and by taking this step it will benefit Chinese and foreign merchants alike. Should any of us, the proprietors of the different tea hongs, take the advantage of secretly paying lekin taxes for our constituents, such of us tea-men, if detected, shall be fined \$1,000.

Now, we have purposely made known the state of the foreign market, as well as that of this province, as it is our wish (to see) that the tea-men give us their hearty support to stop the purchases of teas in the tea districts at present, and that they may wait the opportunity of the first crop of next season to again gain for gain. It would also be well for the growers not to pick tea leaves of the Autumn season, as by leaving the same untouched, they will probably derive some advantage on the early pickings of the first crop, and young teas of next year. It is therefore requested that you, the tea-men, shall not hold out expectations of making gains by pouring so much teas into Foochow, as you must not fail to guard against futurity; and in compliance with such request, our wishes will be fully realized.

Dated the 7th day of the 7th Moon in the 9th Year of the Reign of Kwang-su (9th August 1883).

Publicly issued by the Hong Proprietors.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

A steam fire-engine has been ordered from London at a cost of £625.

Mr. Tanaka, Secretary of His Majesty's Legation in Rome, has been recalled.

The authorities are taking measures to prevent graduates from joining political parties.

The price of the German steamer which the *Kiyodo Unyu Kwanisha* intend to purchase is yen 70,000.

H.E. Ito has received permission to wear the various foreign decorations which he received while travelling in Europe.

The *Omi Maru*, one of the four steamers purchased in London by the Union Shipping Company, has left Europe for Japan.

His Excellency Asano, Minister to Italy, has written home requesting that a number of intelligent youths be sent to Italy for education.

Mr. Saito Shuichiro, the late interpreter to the American Embassy at Seoul, has been re-appointed Assistant Secretary of the Foreign Office.

The *Kasagi Kan*, now building in Germany, will be completed about the end of this month. She is expected in Japan about January next.

Great difficulties are experienced in transporting coal from the mines in Kiushiu to the coast in consequence of the drought which has dried up the rivers.

The Government will shortly despatch a number of students to China to study the Chinese language. The examination of candidates is at present being held.

Mr. Niwa Kikuro, a merchant of Tokyo, will shortly leave for France, having received instructions from the Minister of Finance, to report upon the system of commercial education there.

A new custom-house is to be built in Yokohama at a cost of 100,000 yen. The officers have been warned not to receive presents of any kind from the contractors in acknowledgment of favor in helping them to get the contracts.

The public have begun to appreciate the usefulness of shorthand writing, which is now being taught in the *Nippon Boshu Hoppo Gakka* (Association for Reporting). The demand for the services of competent stenographic reporters is so great that before they complete their course of study they are offered employment.

A report from Inchon, Korea, says—Commercially, there is nothing to report worth noting except that there is a violent fluctuation in the price of the new and the old coins. The principal imports from Japan are—Japanese copper; and of foreign produce, lead, tin, shirtings, and other cotton fabrics. During the months of May, June, and July, fourteen vessels entered and left the port. The steamer number two hundred and eleven. The representative of Jardine, Matheson & Co. has arrived here. A wharf will shortly be constructed at the western end of the Japanese Settlement—*Yupin Mah*.

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE INDIAN MAIL. The steamer *Moray*, with the next Indian mail, left Singapore on the 25th inst., and is due here the 31st.

THE AMERICAN MAIL. The P. & O. S.-N. Co's steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with the next American mail, left Yokohama on the 26th inst., and may be expected here on the 2nd proximo.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE

For Singapore and London.—Per *Benledi*, today, the 29th inst., at 5 P.M.

For Hongkong and Peking.—Per *Ping-on*, today, the 29th inst., at 5 P.M.

For Swatow and Hongkong.—Per *Phra Chom Klao*, on Thursday, the 30th inst., at 11.30 A.M.

For Amoy and Shanghai.—Per *Menelaus*, tomorrow, the 30th inst., at 2.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Maria*, tomorrow, the 30th inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hiogo.—Per *Strathmore*, tomorrow, the 30th inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, &c., &c.—Per *Tinnadice*, tomorrow, the 30th inst., at 4.30 P.M.

For Straits and Bombay.—Per *Bangalore*, on Friday, the 31st inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Nagasaki and Kobe.—Per *Takachiho Maru*, on Friday, the 31st inst., at 3.30 P.M.

For Nagasaki, Hiogo, and Yokohama.—Per *Kashgar*, on Saturday, the 1st September, at 11.30 A.M.

For Kudat and Sandakan.—Per *Thales*, on Saturday, the 1st September, at 3.30 P.M.

Today's Advertisements.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT.)

THE Company's Steamship

"DIAMANTE,"

Captain Cullen, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-DAY, the 29th inst., at FIVE P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 27th August, 1883. [558]

NOTICE

ST. JOHN LODGE OF HONGKONG,

No. 618, S.C.

AN EMERGENCY LODGE will be held in

Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, THIS EVENING, the 29th inst., at 8—8.30 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren will be made cordially welcome. Hongkong, 27th August, 1883. [657]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE List of Applications for SHARES in the above Company will be CLOSED on SATURDAY, the 1st September, at NOON.

DOUGLAS LAIRDAK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 29th August, 1883. [663]

Intimations.

A CARD.

PRIVATE BOARD AND LODGING can be obtained for

SINGLE GENTLEMEN OR MARRIED COUPLES AT NO. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST. Next Door to the Temperance Hall. Terms Moderate. Hongkong, 10th July, 1883. [552]

"CLARIDGE'S HOTEL,"

BROOK STREET, LONDON, W.

THE above is a Commodious and Suitable HOTEL for FAMILIES and GENTLEMEN going home from the Far East. It is under the direct able Management of Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE PRAGNELL who spare no pains in providing their visitors with every possible comfort. TERMS, MODERATE. [502]

ROYAL YORK HOTEL,

OLD STEYNE, BRIGHTON, ENGLAND.

THE above HOTEL is Centrally situated, with Suitable Rooms and ample accommodation for travellers, especially those coming from Eastern Climates. FAMILIES and GENTLEMEN will find every comfort they can wish for at the above establishment, at STRICTLY MODERATE CHARGES.

A. HOADLY, Proprietor. [503]

MR. MOORE begs to recommend his GOGO SHAMPOO WASH to the public as unrivalled by any preparation ever produced for promoting the growth to the hair. The basis of this compound is made of soap root; the natives of the Philippine Islands never use anything else for washing their hair; they are never found bald, and it is quite common to see the females with hair from 5 to 6 feet long. By constantly using this Shampoo, Wash, or Ointment, you will NEVER BE BALD.

The proprietor offers the Wash to the public entirely confident that by its restorative properties it will without fail arrest decaying hair. It completely eradicates scurf, dandruff, and cures all diseases of the scalp. It does not contain any poisonous drugs. By its cooling properties it allays the itching and fever of the scalp, which is the great cause of people losing their hair.

MR. MOORE has succeeded in being able to put this wash up in bottles without allowing it to ferment, and he will guarantee it to keep any length of time in any climate.

FOR SALE ONLY BY MOORE & Co., VARIETY STORE, Queen's Road Central. Hongkong, 25th January, 1883. [589]

NOTICE.

HE CHUNG, SHIP'S PLUMBER, BLACK-SMITH, &c., &c., has REMOVED from No. 35, Queen's Road East to No. 6, Peel Street, close to No. 120, Queen's Road Central. Hongkong, 4th August, 1883. [620]

J. M. GUEDES.

HOUSE AND LAND BROKER, AUCTIONEER AND COMMISSION AGENT. No. 13, WELLINGTON STREET, HONGKONG, Hongkong, 23rd January, 1882. [5]

Intimations.

HONGKONG HOTEL. HAIR DRESSING SALOON.

MR. MARMANDE begs to inform the Community of Hongkong, and Visitors, that the above Establishment is now in full working order.

He has engaged TWO FIRST-CLASS TONSORIAL ARTISTS from Paris, and his staff now consists of 125 competent workmen. He is prepared to execute Hair-dressing in all its branches, making wigs for theatrical purposes, or for ordinary wear, &c., &c.

HAIR CUTTING 50 Cents. SHAMPOOING 25 " STIAVING 25 " TRIMMING BEARDS 25 "

LADIES' HAIRDRESSING SALOON. MR. MARMANDE and his assistants are always at liberty to attend Ladies, at his Saloon, specially set apart for Ladies, or at their own Residences at MODERATE CHARGES.

MR. MARMANDE begs to offer to the public his Shampoo Wash made by Mons. Pinaud who has had many years experience and guarantees it to keep for any length of time in any climate.

Monthly Customers for Hair-cutting, Shaving, and Shampooing, taken at the following prices:— EVERY DAY \$4.00 Per Month. EVERY OTHER DAY \$3.00 " TWICE A WEEK \$2.00 "

MR. MARMANDE will receive direct from Paris a large Consignment of Perfumery and Toilet Toilet requisites which will be open for inspection, and he is prepared to supply the same at prices which will compare favorably with those of any other establishment.

The Saloon is cool and airy, being supplied with Punkahs, and the "Iced Shampoo" is the greatest luxury of the day.

The Saloon is open from 7 A.M. till 7 P.M. for the reception of those who feel the necessity of a Tonsorial operation.

RAZORS MUST CAREFULLY RESET. Hongkong, 12th June, 1883. [458]

F. D. GUEDES.

WINE MERCHANT AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

No. 5, D'AGUIAR STREET.

HAS always on hand a large assortment of CHOICE WINES of the best quality, at Moderate Prices. Hongkong, 2nd October, 1882. [663]

GUEDES & CO.

PRINTERS, STATIONERS, AND BOOKBINDERS.

DIAGUIAR STREET.

EVERY KIND OF WORK EXECUTED WITH ACCURACY, NEATNESS, AND DESPATCH ON VERY MODERATE TERMS.

SELECTED MATERIALS FOR MARKET REPORTS Book-binding and Ruling in every style executed at low rates. Workmanship Guaranteed. Hongkong, 23rd August, 1882. [4]

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

SHIPCHANDLERS, STORE-KEEPERS

AND

GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,

PRAYA CENTRAL

A. AMERICAN ENGINEERS,

AND

HOUSEHOLD TOOLS.

FAIRBANKS AND HOWE'S SCALES,

SALTER'S SPRING BALANCES.

FORCE PUMPS FOR SHIPS' USE.

DRILLING MACHINES.

HITCHCOCK'S PATENT TABLE LAMPS, and

HANGING PENDANTS.

BOTTLE WASHING AND CORKING

MACHINES.

SHIPS' SKYLIGHTS

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.

FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES,
PERFUMERS,
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS
OFMANILA CIGARS,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
AND
MANUFACTURERS
OFAERATED WATERS.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
24, NANKIN ROAD, SHANGHAI.BOTICA INGLESA,
14, ESCOLTA, MANILA.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON.

THE DISPENSARY, FOCHOW.

BIRTH.
On the 17th July, at 11, Well-road, Hampstead, the wife of GEO. MURRAY BAIN, of Hongkong, of a son.DEATH.
At Chefoo, on the 18th inst., J. C. THOMSON, of Messrs. Cornabé & Co.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1883.

A few weeks ago we directed public attention to the system which prevailed at the Harbour Master's Office of issuing permits to masters of vessels of other than British nationality, authorising such masters to ship their crews at their respective consulates, and made special reference to a fee of one dollar per man which it has been the practice of the department named to levy on ship-masters for this so-called privilege. Taking our stand on the clauses of "The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance of 1879," we contended and endeavored to prove—successfully we think—that the exaction of this one-dollar fee could not be legally justified, that, in fact, it was a bare-faced extortion, apparently due to a series of incomprehensible misunderstandings, glaring misinterpretations, or gross blunders in carrying out the provisions of the ordinance.—Ordinance 8 of 1879, (sec. 5 chap. 5) which deals with the shipping and discharge of seamen says—

"No seaman shall, except with the Harbour Master's sanction, be shipped to do duty on board any merchant ship whatever except at the office of the Harbour Master, who shall charge for every seaman shipped, a fee of one dollar, such fee to be paid, in the first instance, by the master of the ship shipping such seaman, and such master shall deliver the same from the wages of the seaman shipped; and the Harbour Master shall require such seaman to lodge with him his certificate of discharge from the last ship, and failing the production of such certificate, such seaman shall be bound to give satisfactory explanation to the Harbour Master of the cause of the non-production thereof. The above mentioned fee shall be accounted for by the Harbour Master to the Treasury."

We stated that at the first glance this section of the act would appear by a side-wind (i.e. the Harbour Master's sanction) to justify the permit system above alluded to; but a closer investigation of that and following sections conclusively negatives the assumption; in fact, it is plainly set down that the ordinance applies only to British and Colonial ships. The remaining sections of this chapter clearly show that the powers possessed by the Harbour Master with regard to British and Colonial vessels, are vested in the various Consuls or Vice-Consuls when foreign vessels are concerned.

This wording leaves little doubt as to the intention of the Ordinance.

It is not desired to deprive consuls of the right to discharge one of their principal functions—shipping crews for the merchant ships of their countries—and in order not to interfere with that privilege the following practice obtains:—The master of a foreign ship desirous of shipping a crew enters the names of the men on a "Permit" with the seamen's discharges or permission to ship is presented at the Colonial Shipping Office, the papers are examined and if found correct (sub-section 5) the sanction of the Harbour Master is given for the men to be shipped at the proper Consulate, the fee of one dollar per man is paid, and the master can then ship his men. It will thus be seen that while the law of the colony is observed, the Consul's duties are not interfered with.

The officer in charge of the shipping office keeps a record of all men legally discharged in the Colony, and the permit system enables him to keep a record as to when they ship and where they go.

The system complained of by the United States Consul has been in force in this Colony for a period of thirty-one years and is found to be a very useful measure. It tends in a great measure to check desertion and has not been made the subject of much complaint. I enclose a copy of letter written on the same subject on the 18th June 1879.

(Signed) H. G. THOMSETT,
Harbour Master.

July 11th, 1883.

The only satisfactory thing in the Colonial Secretary's letter to the German Consul is the assurance that the question relating to the exaction of these permit fees has been referred by the decision of the Imperial Government. If the matter has been fairly represented to the Secretary of State—which in the face of the foolishly reckless assertions contained both in Mr. MARSH's letter and Captain THOMSETT's report is open to doubt—there is some prospect of its being settled on its bare merits; but if a one-sided and garbled version of actual facts has been sent home, it is not impossible that Lord DUBOUX will be

Sir,—Up to the present time masters of German vessels have been in the habit of paying to the Harbour Master a fee of one dollar for every sailor shipped by them in this port, although the sailors were never shipped at the Harbour Master's office but invariably through this Consulate, which being a Consular fee is prescribed by German law. Several masters have now represented to me that for some time past American vessels have ceased to pay the fee, and complain

of this apparent inequality of treatment of different nationalities. I have therefore the honor to request you to be good enough to give me information on the following points:—

- 1.—Is the fee in question—i.e. the payment of one dollar for every sailor shipped by a ship of other than British flag and consequently not shipped at the Harbour Master's office but at the respective consulates—a legal fee and sanctioned by H.B.M.'s Government? and on which section of such ordinance is the levying of the fee based?
- 2.—Is my information correct that American vessels have ceased to pay this fee for some time past?
- 3.—If so, for what reasons has this exemption been granted to American vessels and not extended to all foreign ships?

I have, &c.,
(Signed) O. F. VON MOLLENDORFF,
Acting Consul for Germany.

The Hon. W. H. MARSH, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Hongkong, August 15th, 1883.

Sir,—Your letter of the 11th instant, on the subject of the fee of \$1 a head which is levied by the Harbour Master on each seaman shipped in this port, has been laid before the Governor, and I have been directed by His Excellency to forward for your information a copy of a report from the Harbour Master explaining the circumstances under which this fee has been levied for the past thirty-one years, and to state that His Excellency is advised that this has been done in strict accordance with the law under which the fee in question is properly payable in respect of every seaman shipped, whatever may be the nationality of the vessel on board of which he engages to serve.

The object of the Ordinance under which this fee was originally imposed was the prevention of desertion and the better regulation of merchant seamen in this Colony, and with the same object in view, when Ordinance 6 of 1879 was re-enacted, the section referring to the shipping and discharge of seamen was re-enacted by Chapter V. Section XVI of Ordinance 8 of 1879.

The Harbour Master informs His Excellency that the system complained of by you has been found to be very useful, as tending in a great measure to check desertion from vessels in this port. The fees received by the Harbour Master are paid by him into the Colonial Treasury.

In reply to the second question contained in your letter, I am directed to inform you that if any American vessels have shipped seamen without payment of fees it has been done without the cognizance of the Harbour Master, and the law has in such cases been evaded. Quite recently the American Consul has refused payment of these fees and the question will be referred for the consideration of the Imperial Government.

The only vessels that are exempted by law from payment of these fees are men-of-war and the vessels of the Messageries-Maritimes which by local Ordinance have the status of men-of-war.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant,
W. H. MARSH,
Colonial Secretary.

Dr. O. F. VON MOLLENDORFF,
Acting Consul for Germany,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT BY THE HARBOUR MASTER.

The fee complained of by the United States Consul was originally introduced by Section 5 of Ordinance 6 of 1872. "An Ordinance for the prevention of desertion, &c."

This Ordinance was repealed by the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance 8 of 1879, but the section complained of was re-enacted by sub-section 5, Section 16 of the later Ordinance, perhaps not in the same words but bearing the same meaning.

Sub-section 5, Section 16 of Ordinance 8 of 1879 is as follows:—"No seaman shall, except with the Harbour Master's sanction, be shipped to do duty on board any merchant ship whatever elsewhere than at the office of the Harbour Master, who shall charge for every seaman shipped a fee of one dollar, such fee to be paid in the first instance by the master of the ship shipping such seaman, and such master shall deduct the same from the wages of the seaman shipped."

The above mentioned fee shall be accounted for by the Harbour Master to the Treasury. If any interpretation is required to the words underlined, a reference to the repealed Ordinance will make them clear. In Section 5 of Ordinance 6 of 1872 the words used, as to shipping seamen, are, "and no seaman shall be shipped either as an English or Foreign ship elsewhere than at the Office of the Harbour Master, who shall charge for every seaman shipped a fee of one dollar, &c."

This wording leaves little doubt as to the intention of the Ordinance.

It is not desired to deprive consuls of the right to discharge one of their principal functions—shipping crews for the merchant ships of their countries—and in order not to interfere with that privilege the following practice obtains:—The master of a foreign ship desirous of shipping a crew enters the names of the men on a "Permit" with the seamen's discharges or permission to ship is presented at the Colonial Shipping Office, the papers are examined and if found correct (sub-section 5) the sanction of the Harbour Master is given for the men to be shipped at the proper Consulate, the fee of one dollar per man is paid, and the master can then ship his men. It will thus be seen that while the law of the colony is observed, the Consul's duties are not interfered with.

The officer in charge of the shipping office keeps a record of all men legally discharged in the Colony, and the permit system enables him to keep a record as to when they ship and where they go.

The system complained of by the United States Consul has been in force in this Colony for a period of thirty-one years and is found to be a very useful measure. It tends in a great measure to check desertion and has not been made the subject of much complaint. I enclose a copy of letter written on the same subject on the 18th June 1879.

(Signed) H. G. THOMSETT,
Harbour Master.

July 11th, 1883.

influenced by the official utterances of those who are responsible for what is clearly a gross infringement of the existing law. The Colonial Secretary, although not asked the question by Dr. von MOLLENDORFF, goes out of his way to state that the permit fees exacted by the Harbour Department have been accounted for to the Treasury. If this be the case—and we see no reason why the word of the Colonial Secretary should be questioned—it is somewhat surprising that these fees have been so conspicuously absent from the Harbour Master's financial returns. The attempt by the Harbour Master to give the clauses in the Merchant Shipping Ordinance a meaning which no possible method of word-twisting can uphold, is only slightly less ridiculous than his assertion that the system of charging a one dollar fee for shipping seamen at a foreign consulate is a very useful measure, as it tends in a great measure to check desertion and has not been made the subject of much complaint.

Mr. MARSH informs the German Consul (1) that it has been the custom for thirty-one years to collect at the Harbour Master's office a fee of one dollar for each seaman shipped on all foreign vessels at the various Consulates in the colony; the steamers of the Messageries Maritimes Co. alone excepted; (2) that, since the United States Consul on July 6th complained of this alleged unlawful action, American ships have ceased the payment of this fee; (but the honourable gentleman forgets to enlighten us as to the mode by which the Yankees have evaded it); and (3) that the United States Consul has refused to pay the fee. We beg leave to join issue with the Colonial Secretary on some of these points. The Pacific Mail Company's steamers, for some unexplained reason, have not been made to pay this fee; the American shipmasters have not, nor could they possibly have evaded the law, but as a matter of fact they have all when clearing their vessels been asked the number of men they shipped, at the Consulate and no shipping fee has been demanded from them; the United States Consul never did pay the fee nor was he ever asked to pay it; the fee was always collected from the Master of the vessel at the Harbour Master's. Either the statements made in the Colonial Secretary's official communication to the German Consul, or our positive assertions on the same subjects are wide of the truth. We are prepared to produce conclusive evidence in support of our side of the question. And we would now ask His Excellency the Governor and the energetic Colonial Secretary if Colonel Mossy, the United States Consul in Hongkong, has the power in this Colony to prevent the action of English law, backed up as it is by all the pride, pomp and circumstance of a British Colonial Government, two regiments of infantry and artillery, an ironclad fleet—and those gallant warriors the Hongkong Volunteers? If not, what does the official letter of the Colonial Secretary actually mean?

We understand that the Committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has decided to support Mr. A. R. COLQUHOUN's proposed journey of exploration from Burmah to Southern China by a money grant from the funds of the Institution. If our information is correct—and we see no reason to doubt it—we heartily commend the action of the Committee in thus recognising the importance of an undertaking which can scarcely fail to beneficially affect the commercial relations of this colony with those little known provinces which it is Mr. COLQUHOUN's mission to open out to the world. An enterprise which has for one of its main objects the extension of our commerce is surely entitled to some sort of recognition, and as the results of the dangerous journey proposed to be taken by Mr. COLQUHOUN and his colleagues must of necessity possess a substantial interest for the mercantile community of Hongkong, the Chamber of Commerce is only true to its traditions in supporting this new enterprise. We do not possess sufficient information of the proposed exploration to give a lengthy detailed account of the route intended to be followed by Mr. COLQUHOUN, but we may state that the journey will probably extend over a period of two years; and will include as thorough an examination as circumstances will permit of Northern Siam and the Shan country, a vast region of which comparatively little is yet known. Judging from the thoroughly efficient and practical manner in which Mr. COLQUHOUN managed his recent journey from Canton to Burmah through a hostile and dangerous country, as graphically described in "Across Chryse," we have every confidence that, from the still more important mission of exploration he has now undertaken, substantial advantages will accrue to the interests both of geographical science and general commerce.

TELEGRAMS.
WITTENBERG, 29th August, 11.16 a.m.
VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS IN SUNDA STRAITS.
SITRATIS.
Strong volcanic eruptions in Sunda Straits. Charts not to be trusted, all lights are destroyed.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

ARCHER'S Surprise Party arrived from Japan by the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Kashgar* yesterday afternoon. We understand they had a very successful season in the "Land of the Rising Sun."

"My dear fellow," remarks the Judge to the plaintiff, who had lost his action before him that afternoon, "you had a mighty good case, but what made you employ such an ass of a lawyer?" "Because I had been told that he had the ear of the Court."

WHEN Sarah Bernhardt passed through Hamburg recently on her way to Copenhagen and Stockholm she had forty-six trunks full of baggage, and waxed furious when the customs officers insisted upon examining the contents of every one to the very bottom.

THE furniture and family portraits at Scivelby Court, in Lincolnshire, for generations the seat of the King's Champions, are advertised to be sold by order of the executors of Mrs. Dymoke. The Dymokes have been at Scivelby ever since the days of Richard II.—more than five hundred years.

We are sorry to hear from Cheloo that H.M.S. *Flying Fish* was put in quarantine at that port on the 20th inst. owing to the death of one of the crew from cholera. The summer in Cheloo has been an unusually unhealthy one, sickness having prevailed to a very great extent both amongst foreigners and Chinese.

SOME excitement has been caused at Cairo, Egypt, by the conversion by American missionaries of a young Mohammedan, aged twenty-two, who has been subjected to so much persecution by the fanatical Arab priests that Sir E. Malet has been compelled to interfere in his behalf and send him to Cyprus.

OSCAR WILDE is described as hardly to be recognized since he had his hair cut short. As he has never worn in England the knee breeches in which he masqueraded in the United States, he is not eccentric in appearance—but simply ugly. His brother, Willie, aspires to pose in his stead as an esthete, but is regarded as a failure.

El Comercio states that on the 24th instant the British ship *Polynesian* arrived at Manila from Hongkong with her flag flying half mast and the quarantine flag at the fore. This was in consequence of the death of the Captain, John Peel, who died at sea on the 19th. The vessel was put in quarantine, and the body of the Captain, placed in a coffin made on board, taken on to Manila for immediate interment. Captain Peel's wife and two children are on board the *Polynesian*.

In another place will be found a telegram, received in the Colony this afternoon by Mr. R. Buschmann, acting consul for the Netherlands, of a most serious character, to which in the public interest all possible publicity should be given. It would seem that powerful volcanic eruptions have taken place in the Sunda Straits, destroying all the lights, and thereby rendering charts of the locality useless—and navigation extremely dangerous. We shall await further particulars of this calamity with interest.

SOME information concerning the Mastodon Minstrels reached us from Surabaya yesterday. They have been performing in the various towns and cities in Java with considerable success, but the heavy expenses of the country and the exorbitant charges for travelling from place to place have prevented their campaign from proving financially remunerative. The Mastodons proceed to Calcutta where, we understand, Bandmann's particular friend Dave Carson will "run" them at the Corinthian.

We are glad to hear from Shanghai that the Lofus Troupe are having a most successful season at that port, their performances so far having been given to crowded houses. It is the intention of the company to remain in Shanghai until October 1st, after which they will return to Hongkong, as already announced, and perform for one month. The troupe is such a good one all round and their repertoire of such an attractive character, that they are certain to receive extensive patronage from our music-loving and play-going community.

OUR Manila contemporary *El Comercio* states that the Committee appointed to investigate and report on the large amount of Mexican dollars of a later date than 1877 in circulation in the Philippines waited on His Excellency the Intendente General de Hacienda Puplica on the 19th instant. The committee proposed to remit the so-called foreign dollars into small change of *pesetas* and *medias pesetas*, it is calculated that the amount of illegal coinage in circulation reaches the respectable sum of \$1,076,000. The Circulo Mercantil, recently formed, has also reported on the monetary difficulty which is now absorbing the minds of the Spanish authorities.

THE French gunboat *Lutin* left the Cosmopolitan Dock yesterday. The *Carlisle* went over to the Kowloon Dock this morning, and the German steamer *Iphigenia* will leave the Cosmopolitan tomorrow.

THERE are in Switzerland nineteen associations promoted for the purpose of collecting the discarded ends of cigars, selling them, and applying the proceeds to charitable purposes. An official report recently published shows that for twelve months' operation these associations can show a net profit of 31,250 francs, with which 1,726 poor children were provided with clothing.

THE international shooting match at Wimbledon between teams representing the United States and Great Britain respectively resulted, as we predicted would be the case, in the complete victory of the British, their scores being 1,951 against 1,906 for the Americans. The United States marksmen fairly held their own at the short ranges and at the end of the firing at 800 yards fell by over 30; but they fell off greatly at 900 and 1000 yards and were ultimately defeated, as the above totals show, by 45 points.

GENERAL ANITSCHIN, Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, has addressed a memorandum to the Russian Minister of the Interior, calling his Excellency's attention to the urgent necessity of establishing a better guard on the Russo-Chinese frontier than exists there at present. The general requests that eight regiments be sent thither from Western Siberia. He complains that 30,000 men now under his command are badly armed, whereas the Chinese troops on the other side of the frontier are provided with excellent weapons, and have been partly organized by German officers. He apprehends that in case of hostilities the Chinese would easily capture Vladivostok and other points, the Russian troops not being able to offer a serious resistance.

THE *Whitehall Review* says:—It must be rather galling to the Japanese to find that Sir Harry Parkes has been appointed British Minister to China. The advisers of the Mikado have never quite understood the straight lines on which Sir Harry always worked, while they had many worthless friends—a few English and a great many American—who never lost the chance of poisoning their minds against the policy of the British Legation. Now, when the time for appreciating his services at their real value has gone by, the Japanese will begin to regret not having esteemed Sir Harry Parkes more than they did. The bitterest enemy of Japan is China, and, in any future complications between these two countries, the Minister at Peking is certain to play a leading part; so that upon the attitude to be assumed by Sir Harry Parkes much of the future welfare of Japan may depend.

THE Berlin correspondent of *The Times* writes:—The trial of the guns of the Chinese corvette *Ting Yuen*, at Swinemunde, with a scratch crew from the German Navy, seems to have ended somewhat strangely. The vessel has two turrets, each armed with a couple of Krupp guns of 305 centim. calibre, which had already successfully stood the test of an extra charge of powder at Essen; but it was also necessary to test the effect of the concussion of these monster cannon on the corvette itself. According to an account published in the *North German Gazette*, a large quantity of skylight and window-glass was smashed, a thick iron rail on the bridge was wrenched off, a funnel was snapped in two, the deck was strewn with coals jerked up from the coal-bunkers, some wooden furniture was shattered into splinters, "which the gentlemen could put in their pockets and carry away with them as mementoes of the occasion," while one of the visitors was "knocked down." The same fate would certainly have befallen others had they not held with steadfast determination to rally and tackle. The greatest effect was naturally produced when the four big guns were fired together. The cannon being loaded, the turrets, for safety's sake, were cleared of the men, and then, on a given signal, one solitary gunner pulled "with all his might" at the four long cords which had been attached to a bar. The shock was tremendous, and the damage in smashed glass, wrenching off of iron rails, and disturbed coal-bunkers, &c., was immense. How the Chinese are to face the French or any other foe with such disastrous guns is a question well worthy of their consideration.

We would direct special attention to the performance to be given in the Theatre Royal, City Hall, to-morrow night by Messrs. Kellar and Curand, the famous illusionists. In addition to the ordinary attractive programme of high class illusions, a special feature of the entertainment will be the promised complete exposure of the world renowned "Cabinet Trick," first made famous by the Davenport Brothers. Mr. Kellar promises to completely expose the absurd hypothesis of "spirit" intervention by showing plainly that the marvellous and apparently incomprehensible effects exhibited in connection with this mystery are produced by natural agency—in fact, are mere illusions. As this cabinet *trance* has caused a greater number of conjectures and excited more controversy throughout the world than all other so-called "spirit" mysteries combined, a lucid explanation of how the oracle is worked should prove sufficiently attractive to the Hongkong public to crowd the City Hall in every available part. This special performance it may be noted is under the distinguished patronage of General Sargent, C.B.; Colonel Parnell, C.B., and the Officers of "The Buffs," so that a strong and fashionable military element will doubtless be present to see spiritualism ridiculed. However, apart altogether from the cabinet mystery, Mr. Kellar's clever illusions and sleight-of-hand tricks form an evening's entertainment rarely to be met with. The exhibitions of the wonderful automata have to be seen to be properly understood and appreciated. As this will be Messrs. Kellar and Curand's final appearance, and as their "show" is well worthy of public support, our readers will do well not to miss the opportunity of witnessing the marvels announced.

THE Victoria Recreation Club aquatic sports will be commenced to-morrow at 4 p.m. at the bath house. Eight events are down on the programme, including a duck hunt and three handicaps, and an enjoyable couple of hours may be anticipated should the weather prove favorable.

WILLIAM STOCKFIELD, an unemployed Danish seaman, appeared before Captain Thomsen this morning on a charge of being a rogue and vagabond, sleeping in the public streets and having no fixed place of abode. Defendant, who merely stated that the Russian Consul in Singapore had sent him on to this port by the steamer *Menelaus*, was sent in for a week's hard labor.

CHIU LUK, a chair cooler, remanded from the 10th instant on a charge of cutting and wounding a fellow tradesman named Kwok Tai Kum with a chopper, was again brought before Mr. Wodehouse this morning. Dr. A. J. Wharry's evidence was to the effect that Kwok was admitted to Hospital on the 10th suffering from an incised wound on the left shoulder. The wound was about six inches long and a quarter of an inch deep. There was another wound on the left upper arm but neither of them was dangerous. Prisoner stated that he was playing fan-tan with the complainant and another man and lost two dollars and a half. He paid them two dollars when they set on him to make him pay the half dollar, one of the two going for a chopper to use against him. He seized the chopper and used it on his assailants. Prisoner had no witness to corroborate his yarn, and was served out with six months' hard labor.

U KINO WAN, a shoof, remanded from Monday on a charge of embezzling and stealing the sum of \$68 the property of his employer, Mr. Creasy Ewens, was again before the court this morning. Mr. Ewens stated that defendant was his shoof and had been in his employment since September last. He charged him with the embezzlement of \$50 which he had collected in rents and had not paid him. The \$50 was for the rent of premises in the Hollywood Road from May 17th till June 4th. He also charged him with the embezzlement of a further sum of \$18, rates and taxes for the same premises, for the second quarter of this year. Mr. Ewens' accountant stated that he gave the receipt for \$50, now in court, to the defendant on the 6th of June last, and instructed him to collect the money. Defendant paid in monies from time to time, but did not pay in the \$50 and repeatedly said the man had not paid the account. About the end of July the defendant handed in a lot of receipts, and, as the one for \$50 was not amongst them, he informed Mr. Ewens of the omission and made enquiries by his instructions. The tenant of the house showed him the receipt for the \$50 which also had on it a receipt in Chinese for \$18 for rates on the premises. Defendant had never paid in the money as he should have done. Wong Tui, the tenant of the premises in the Hollywood Road, stated that he paid the defendant the \$50 and \$18 as the receipt showed. Defendant stated that he would undertake to pay the money by the end of this month. He did not mean to permanently retain it and told the accountant when he found out he had received the rent and had not paid it in. Mr. Ewens was recalled and stated that he had discharged his shoof for his irregularities. The accountant was also recalled and said that defendant should have paid in the money as soon as it was collected. Mr. Wodehouse remanded the case till September the 5th, bail being allowed in two sureties of \$250 each.

SAYS a San Francisco contemporary.—The statement that France and China had come to a peaceful understanding regarding Tonquin is denied by the Chinese authorities at Shanghai. Still it is not impossible that a peaceful agreement will be arrived at. Both countries are unduly desirous of war—China because she knows that it would result in inevitable defeat, and France because she fears it would lead to serious trouble with other European Powers. It is said that the Chinese want arbitration and would have selected the United States as an intermediary except for our hostile attitude toward her emigrating citizens. It is an offer that this country would not covet, and it is not probable that her service will be needed, there being a willing mediator much nearer and much more experienced in the dark ways of Eastern diplomacy. That Power, Russia, who has been dealing with the Chinese since the Cosacovs appeared, and the Americans since the seventeenth century and has since had intimate intercourse with all the Tartar tribes of the Central Asian steppes and beyond. What Russia does not know about the manners and customs of Oriental diplomacy is superfluous knowledge. Since her first troubles on the Amoor she has suffered every difficulty she has had with China by peaceful negotiation and has always come out victorious. For some hundreds of years the Chinese held the south bank of the Amoor to its mouth. Taking advantage of the Chinese war with Europe, was occupied elsewhere, she expelled the peaceful nation of territory south of the Amoor, for several hundred miles from its mouth, and extending to Corea. During the "Opium" rebellion, Kalgai, the northernmost province, became demoralized and Russia had the Amoor as a protectorate of the do, protect her interests. When the rebellion was subdued and China had reorganized her forces, war was threatened, but the difficulty was settled by the retention by Russia of a portion of the territory and payment by China of a war indemnity. The offer of Russian mediation in the present China case has meaning that its object is to injure us. It is the time and the place where the secret influence of the Russian Government is being used to undermine the alliance between Austria, Italy and Germany. It is not in the interest of Russia to see France humiliated or weakened by war engaged in or prolonged in the interest of her own rivalry and she knows that however much a war about Tonquin will injure China, it is more injurious to Germany and may have disastrous consequences. The difficulty may not be settled and the influence of diplomacy are being used to undermine the alliance between Austria, Italy and Germany. 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The Hongkong Telegraph



No. 495.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1883.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER.

For Sale.

JUST TO HAND.

CHUBB'S PAPER AND CASH BOXES.
SAFES, LOCKS & DESPATCH BOXES.
NEW COFFEE MACHINES.
FOOD WARMERS.
TODDY KETTLES.
NEW TOBACCO.

GOLDEN CLOUD.
BIRDSEYE.
SMOKING MIXTURE.

CARBOLIC DISINFECTING POWDER
IN SMALL DREDGERS.

INDIA RUBBER SEA-BOOTS.

NEW BOOKS.

THE LATEST MUSIC.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, 18th August, 1883. [340]

Insurances.

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED).
CAPITAL TAELS 600,000, EQUAL \$833,333-33.
RESERVE FUND.....\$70,858-27.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
LEE SING, Esq.,.....LEE YAT LAU, Esq.,
LO YOK MOON, Esq.,.....CHU CHIK NUNG, Esq.,
MANAGER—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS ON GOODS, &c., taken at
CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST,
Hongkong, 1st September, 1882. [601]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED).

(CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.)

The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS,
&c. Policies granted to all parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST,
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [106]

YANGTSE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up).....Tls. 430,000-00
PERMANENT RESERVE.....Tls. 230,000-00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....Tls. 318,235-56

TOTAL CAPITAL AND
ACCUMULATIONS, 31st
March, 1883.....Tls. 968,235-56

DIRECTORS.

F. D. HITCH, Esq., Chairman.
C. LUCAS, Esq.,.....W. M. MEYER, Esq.,
A. J. M. INVERARITY, Esq.,.....G. H. WHEELER, Esq.,

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.
LONDON BRANCH.
Messrs. BARING BROTHERS & Co.,
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent,
68 and 69, Cornhill, E.C.

POLICIES granted on MARINE RISKS to all
parts of the world.
Subject to a charge of 12 per cent. for interest
on Shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the
Underwriting BUSINESS are annually dis-
tributed among all Contributors of Business (whether
Shareholders or not) in proportion to the
premiums paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th May, 1883. [83]

THE MANCHESTER UNDERWRITERS'
ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

THE Undersigned having been appointed
AGENTS of the above Company are
prepared to Grant Policies on MARINE RISKS
to all parts of the world at CURRENT RATES,
allowing an immediate cash discount of 25 per
cent.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1883. [150]

THE Undersigned have been appointed
AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD
of UNDERWRITERS.

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1883.

RECORD OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN
SHIPPING.

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th June, 1883. [479]

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are
requested to send in a Statement of Business
Contributed during the half-year ended 31st
July, 1883, on or before September 1st next,
on which date the Accounts will be CLOSED.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
D. GILLES,
Secretary.

Hongkong 20th August, 1883. [419]

Amusements.

THEATRE ROYAL.

CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

TO-MORROW EVENING,

THE 30TH AUGUST.

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF
MAJOR-GENERAL J. N. SARGENT, C.B.,
COMMANDING H. M. FORCES in China and
Straits Settlements, and LIEUT.-COLONEL
H. PARNELL, C.B., and the OFFICERS OF
"THE BUFFS," EAST KENT REGIMENT.

MESSRS. KELLAR & CUNARD,

THE

ROYAL ILLUSIONISTS,

WILL GIVE

A GRAND FAREWELL REPRESENTATION

OF

THEIR UNIQUE AND STARTLING

WONDERS

on which occasion

M. R. KELLAR

will give a Complete Exposure of the wonderful

SPRIT SEANCE.

Showing clearly how the Marvellous Effects

of the Cabinet are produced by Natural

Agency—completely exploding

the hypothesis of Spirit

intervention.

M. R. KELLAR

WILL ALSO

EXPOSE AND EXPLAIN

THE GREAT COAT TEST,

THE SLADE HOLDING TEST,

THE FLOATING GUITAR,

THE KATIE KING MARVEL,

AND ALL THE

GRAND MYSTERIES OF THE

SPIRIT DARK SEANCE.

In this entertainment, the Royal Illusionists—

in addition to their usual programme of high-class

illusions—propose to Exhibit, Expose, and Ex-

plain the principal and most mysterious of so-

called spiritual manifestations. The Exhibition

is not intended to be in the slightest degree con-

troversial, or to arraign in any manner the

orthodox belief in future existence, or the theory

of the Spiritualists—that communication can be

established between men living and men dead.

Its scope merely comprehends an exposition of

the tricks and humbug of persons calling them-

selves "Mediums," and who base their claims

to credibility on certain exhibitions of seemingly

supernatural power, as illustrated in feats of

tying and untying ropes, causing faces and

hands to appear and disappear in an inexplicable

manner, and like performances in jugglery, which,

through ignorance and superstition, have been

attributed to

SPIRITUALISM, DEMONOLGY, AND

WITCHCRAFT.

In these tricks and sports the Royal Illusionists

are most proficient, far outstripping the

Davenport Brothers, the Eddys, Dr.

Slade, and all that class of mounte-

banks who play upon the

credulity and sympathy of

people holding the

Spiritualists' faith.

REMEMBER—THURSDAY,

the 30th August,

WILL POSITIVELY BE THE LAST

OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING THE

GREAT ILLUSIONISTS IN THEIR

WONDERS!!

ADMISSION:

Dress Circle and Stalls.....\$2.

Back Seats.....\$1.

Box Plan at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH'S.

Door open at 8.30. Performance at 9 o'clock.

Carriages may be ordered for 11 o'clock.

Hongkong, 27th August, 1883. [654]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MR. J. M. GUEDES has received instruc-

tions from the MORTGAGEE to Sell by

Public Auction,

TO-MORROW,

the 30th August, 1883, at 2.30 O'CLOCK P.M.,

on the Premises,

A VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

Situate in Queen's Road, Victoria, in

the Colony of Hongkong,

Consisting of

All that Piece or Parcel of GROUND situate

at Victoria aforesaid, being Portion of IN-

LAND LOT No. 95, abutting on the North

side thereof on the Queen's Road and mea-

suring thereon 27 feet 10 inches or there-

abouts, on the South side thereof on Section

C of the said Lot No. 95, and measuring

thereon 27 feet 10 inches or thereabouts, on

the East side thereof on a lane or roadway

and measuring thereon 29 feet 6 inches or

thereabouts, and on the West side thereof

on Section B of the said Lot No. 95, and

measuring thereon 29 feet 6 inches or there-

abouts which said Piece or Parcel of Ground

is registered in the Land Office as SECTION

A of INLAND LOT No. 95, with the Mes-

sures thereon as the same Premises are

held for the residue of a term of 976 years

at the Annual Rental of \$20.

The Property is Sold subject to the existing

tenancies and lettings thereof.

For further Particulars and Conditions of

Sale, apply to

BERKTON, WOTTON & DEACON,
Solicitors, Hongkong,

or to

J. M. GUEDES,
Auctioneer Hongkong.

Hongkong, 16th August, 1883. [642]

NOTICE.

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY,
LIMITED.

TENDERS for the LEASE of the HONGKONG
HOTEL and/or SHOPS will CLOSE on
31st instant, at Noon.

By Order,
LOUIS HAUSCHILD,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 20th August, 1883. [651]

Intimations.

KELLY & WALSH

HAVE JUST RECEIVED

5000 NUMBERS OF THE SEA SIDE AND FRANKLIN SQUARE LIBRARIES.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS EACH.

John Inglesant.....J. H. Shorthouse.
Vice-Versa.....F. Anstey.
Yolande.....William Black.
Like Ships upon the Sea.....Eleanor Trollope.
Side Lights of English Society.....G. Murray.
Experiences of a Barrister's Life.....S. Ballantine.
Wanda.....Ouida.
The Wreck of the Grosvenor.....W. Clarke Russell.
Ready Money Mortiboy.....Besant & Rice.
The Golden Butterfly.....do.
Alton Locke.....Chas. Kingsley.
Under two Flags.....Ouida.
Cherry Ripe.....Helen Mathers.
Not wisely but too well.....Rhoda Broughton.
Adam Bede.....George Eliot.
Romola.....do.
Felix Holt the Radical.....do.
Daniel Deronda.....do.
The Mill on the Floss.....do.
John Halifax, Gentleman.....Miss Muloch.
Rhona.....Mrs. Forrester.
John Marchmont's Legacy.....K. D. Blackmore.
Lorna Doone.....Miss Yonge.
Heir of Redcliffe.....Charlotte Bronte.
Jane Eyre.....do.
Puck.....Ouida.
Vanity Fair.....W. M. Thackeray.
Henry Esmond.....do.
Handy Andy.....Samuel Lover.

Robert Falconer.....George MacDonald.
Nancy.....Rhoda Broughton.
All Sorts and Conditions of Men.....Besant & Rice.
The Tenant of Wildfell Hall.....Anne Bronte.
The Beautiful Wretch.....Wm. Black.
Shandon Bells.....do.
A Laodicean.....Thomas Hardy.
So they were married.....Besant & Rice.
Donna Quixote.....Justin McCarthy.
The Chaplain of the Fleet.....Besant & Rice.
Life and Adventures of Peter Wilkins.....do.
Reminiscences of Thomas Carlyle.....J. A. Froude.
Endymion.....Lord Beaconsfield.
A History of our own Times.....Justin McCarthy.
(2 parts)
Grandmother's Money.....R. D. Blackmore.
East Lynne.....Mrs. Henry Wood.
The Channings.....Mrs. Henry Wood.
Life of Christ (2 parts).....Dr. Giekie.
The Small House at Allington.....Anthony Trollope.
An Ocean Free Lance.....W. Clark Russell.
Christowell.....Florence Marryat.
The Comet of a Season.....R. D. Blackmore.
Man and Wife.....Wm. Collins.
Mary Marston.....George MacDonald.
Life of Christ.....Canon Farrar.
By Proxy.....James Payne.
European Slave Life.....F. W. Hacklander.

ALL THE BEST NOVELS OF ALL THE BEST WRITERS.

COMPLETE LISTS MAY BE HAD ON APPLICATION.

KELLY & WALSH—HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 20th August, 1883. [560]

W. B. BREWER.

HAS JUST RECEIVED.

NEW PORCELAIN MENU AND NAME STANDS.
MOWHAWK MINSTREL SONG BOOKS.
NEW ENGINEERING AND NAUTICAL WORKS.
SENNETT'S THE MARINE STEAM ENGINE.
DONALDSON'S ROUGH SKETCHING.
ENGINEERS' PRIVATE LOG BOOKS.
MACGREGOR'S ENGINEERS' ALMANACK.
SMITH'S TABLES AND MEMORANDA.
SPONSOR.
REED'S ENGINEERS' GUIDE; NEW ED.
BERGEN'S
WILSON ON STEAM BOILERS.
SEXTON'S BOILER MAKERS' POCKET BOOK.
MOLESWORTH'S ENGINEERS' POCKET BOOK.
BURGH'S
HASWELL'S
BALE'S SAW MILLS; THEIR MANAGEMENT, &c.
LECKIE'S WRINKLES IN PRACTICAL NAVIGATION.
REED'S GUIDE TO THE MARINE BOARD.
AZUMUTH'S TABLES, WEATHER FORECASTS, SAILOR'S POCKET BOOK.
NEW CHARTS of England, Hainan Straits, and Sulu Archipelago.
VARIATION CHART OF THE WORLD.
NEW WALTZES.
MY QUEEN, BROSE DE NUITS, MESSENGER OF LOVE, &c.
W. BREWER,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 10th August, 1883. [703]

"NOVELTY STORE,"

MARINE HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD.

THE FOLLOWING BOOKS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

BEETON'S Handbook of Needlework.
" Ready Reckoner.
" All about Gardening.
" English Woman's Cookery Book.
Foucher's The Universe.
Tissandier's Scientific Recreations.
Mitford's Tales of Old Japan.
Bagehot's Economical Studies.
Figuer's The Human Race.
Perry's Practical Mechanics.
Shore's Some Difficulties of Belief.
Creswell's Handrailings and Staircases.
Dresser's Principle of Decorative Designs.
Elwe's Animal Drawings.
Hongkong, 24th August, 1883. [528]

Figuer's The World before the Deluge.
" The Ocean World.
Carmichael's Handbook on Water-colour
Drawings.
The Miniature Book of Golden Truths.
The Child's Miniature Daily Text Book.
The Miniature Shakespeare Gem Book and
Journal for Birthdays.
The Loving Record or Poetic Remembrancer.
The Child's daily Text Book and Birthday
Register.
The Golden Truths and Birthday Note
Book.
Chamber's Etymological English Dictionary.

SAYLE & CO.

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

WE have just received from our SHANGHAI CABINET FACTORY a SAMPLE SUITE of
BEDROOM FURNITURE which is now on view.
Any Article of FURNITURE made to order in MAHOGANY, BIRCH, ASH or
WALNUT at less than Home Prices.
DESIGN BOOKS and Estimates on application.
We are also showing the VIENNA-BENTWOOD FURNITURE,
very strong and durable.
WALNUT and EBONIZED BRACKETS in great variety.
VENETIAN and OVAL MIRRORS
A large stock of BRASS and IRON BEDSTEADS in every size always on hand.
IRON SWING BASSINETTES and COTS for Children in every size.
The Excelsior Patent Chain SPRING MATTRESS in every size (the Best
Spring Mattress extant).
New Designs in LACE CURTAINS 3, 4, 4 1/2, 5 yards long.
Single and Double PERAMBULATORS Specially
adapted for this Colony.

SAYLE & CO.,
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th August, 1883. [249]

WILLIAM SCHMIDT & CO.

GUNMAKERS & AMMUNITION

DEALERS.

BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.

Arms, Ammunitions, and Requisites of

every description.

Arms Repaired, Cleaned, or Converted at

moderate charges.

Sporting Guns and Ammunition always

on hand.

(9)

Hongkong, 20th August, 1883.

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

FOR HOIHOW AND PAKHOI.

THE Steamship

"PING-ON."

Captain McCaslin, will be despatched for the

above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 30th instant,

at DAYLIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & Co.,

Hongkong, 28th August, 1883. [1660]

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND

PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW

ZEALAND, NEW CALEDONIA,

TASMANIA and FIJI.)

THE Eastern and Australian Steamship

Company's Steamship

"TANNADICE,"

Captain S. G. Green, will be despatched as

above TO-MORROW, the 30th August, at

FOUR P.M.

Parcels (all of which must be sent to our Office)

will be received up to 4 P.M., on the 29th August.

Contents and Value of the Packages, must be

declared.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 28th August, 1883. [649]

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.'s LINE.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.